

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 - 20. (Cancelled).

21. (New) A holder for supporting an article comprising:
a body including a support surface that is adapted to support an article thereon;
a sensor positioned relative to said body opposite said support surface, said sensor adapted to generate a signal that is representative of a condition of an article supported on said support surface;
a support member supported on said body for movement relative thereto; and
an actuator that is responsive to said sensor signal for moving said support member into engagement with an article supported on said support surface.

22. (New) The holder defined in Claim 21 wherein said sensor is supported on said body opposite said support surface.

23. (New) The holder defined in Claim 21 wherein said sensor is supported within said body.

24. (New) The holder defined in Claim 21 wherein said sensor is a field effect device.

25. (New) The holder defined in Claim 21 wherein said sensor is an optical sensor.

26. (New) The holder defined in Claim 21 wherein said condition of said article that is sensed by said sensor includes at least one of liquid level within the article, height of the article, diameter of the article, width of the article, perimeter of the article, weight of the article, and pressure exerted by the article.

27. (New) The holder defined in Claim 21 wherein said support surface extends generally horizontally, and wherein said support member is supported on said body for pivoting movement about an axis that extends generally horizontally.

28. (New) The holder defined in Claim 21 wherein said support surface extends generally horizontally, and wherein said support member is supported on said body for pivoting movement about an axis that extends generally vertically.

29. (New) A holder for supporting an article comprising:
a body including a support surface that extends generally horizontally and is adapted to support an article thereon;
a sensor adapted to generate a signal that is representative of a condition of an article supported on said support surface;
a support member supported on said body for pivoting movement about an axis that extends generally horizontally; and
an actuator that is responsive to said sensor signal for moving said support member into engagement with an article supported on said support surface.

30. (New) The holder defined in Claim 29 wherein said sensor is positioned relative to said body opposite said support surface.

31. (New) The holder defined in Claim 29 wherein said sensor is supported on said body opposite said support surface.

32. (New) The holder defined in Claim 29 wherein said sensor is supported within said body.

33. (New) The holder defined in Claim 29 wherein said sensor is a field effect device.

34. (New) The holder defined in Claim 29 wherein said sensor is an optical sensor.

35. (New) The holder defined in Claim 29 wherein said condition of said article that is sensed by said sensor includes at least one of liquid level within the article, height of the article, diameter of the article, width of the article, perimeter of the article, weight of the article, and pressure exerted by the article.

36. (New) The holder defined in Claim 29 wherein said support surface extends generally horizontally, and wherein said support member is supported on said body for pivoting movement about an axis that extends generally vertically.